

**City of Lambertville
SHADE TREE COMMISSION**

Minutes of September 26, 2022 Meeting

Attending the meeting at the Justice Center were members Dan Seiter, Helen Pettit, Susan Wydick, Tom Ogren and Art Legere (by phone after the start of meeting). Lisa Nichols was absent. Vice Chair Dan Seiter convened the meeting at 7:45 pm. He stated that the meeting was held in compliance with the Open Public Meetings Act.

Approval of Minutes:

Helen made a motion, seconded by Art, to approve the minutes of the August 22, 2022 meeting. All voted in favor.

Public Attendee Issues/Requests: None

New Business:

100 Studdiford Street (SDL 22-00028) - Tree Action Request: Homeowner Steven Stegman requested approval to remove three dead Ash trees in his front yard. *Tom made a motion, seconded by Helen, that the request be approved. All voted in favor.*

Old Business:

1. 27 Buttonwood: As requested by the STC, the homeowner removed the tree box.
2. 7 Delevan: As a follow up to letters previously sent, Art will contact the project engineer to request that three crab apple trees be planted on Clinton Street.
3. Riparian Tree Grant Update: Sue indicated that 20 small trees will be made available to homeowners on Swan Street for planting along the Swan Creek in their rear yards. She will be distributing flyers to the homeowners about planting the trees. Sue also indicated that grant funds could cover the cost of three large trees which could be planted along Lambert Lane. It was suggested that the grant might instead be used to cover the cost of this year's Arbor Day tree - see following item.
4. Arbor Day Tree Purchase: Art indicated that the Rich Mowry of T&T Tree Service is requesting payment of approximately \$750 for the Arbor Day tree (planted in April) and that the City's purchasing agent indicated that the City could not pay him due to a conflict of interest. Art will follow up with former STC chair Brian Herzhauser on what arrangements were made for the tree purchase, Art and Sue will explore payment for the tree with Riparian Tree grant funds.

5. 73 Bridge Street: The property owner has not yet responded to the letter regarding the unauthorized trimming of the street tree. Next steps will be reviewed by the City attorney.

6. 10 Church Street: The property owner has not yet responded to the letter requesting removal of hazardous branches of the dead Ash tree at this address.

Subcommittee Reports:

Dan reported that the Ordinance Review subcommittee met and will present proposed amendments soon.

Announcements:

1. NJ Urban and Community Forestry Program Grant: Art reported that Lauren Kovacs has arranged for City Council to take action for the tree inventory grant at the next meeting. Art will request a copy of the grant award letter indicating the grant amount.

2. Shade Tree Commission Vacancy: Art expressed the need to fill the vacancy (created by the recent resignation of Rich Mowry). Art will contact possible candidates for their interest in becoming a STC member.

Public/Commission Member Comments/Suggestions:

1. Tom reminded members that the NJ Urban and Community Program requires two individuals to obtain three education credits during this year. Art will contact Public Works Director Lester Myers about obtaining credits.

2. Helen asked that two tree action requests with completed applications be put on the agenda for next month: 33 Buttonwood Street (SDL 22-00024) and 59 Buttonwood Street (SDL 22-00025).

3. Helen distributed copies of her new Procedural Guidance manual for discussion at the next meeting.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 8:35 pm

Tom Ogren
Recording Secretary